

kidney become affected in the order named. The tuberculous processes attack the vas deferens after the lapse of years. This also after the testis and epididymis have become affected. The ureter once affected, the process is apt to involve the peritoneum and thence a general infection may result. Tuberculosis of the epididymis is rarely found secondary general tuberculosis. It is a primary disease. Tuberculosis may exist in isolated form for years in the epididymis. This is explained by the encapsulation of the tubercle bacilli in the tunica albuginea epididymis. After the invasion of the vicinity of the tubercle nodule (epididymis) general infection ensues. Localized tuberculosis of the epididymis is rarely found with tuberculosis of the lung. In long standing tuberculosis of the epididymis, we can surmise the infection of the testis if not the rest of the genito-urinary tract. The infection spreads in an ascending direction. Tuberculosis of the kidney is often a result of this ascending process, but may be found in general tuberculosis. The treatment proposed by the author is the resection of the epididymis as the earliest moment. The patients readily consent to this early interference. The sexual powers of the patient (in a limited sense) are retained after the operation. This latter advantage of the operation would recommend it to notice. The total resection of the epididymis is advocated and in this the author considers himself first on the field. He has demonstrated the possibility of the operation, though Hueter has doubted its utility. The author is confirmed in the belief that the early total resection of the tuberculous epididymis can prevent the general spread of the disease in a majority of cases. In only one case has he observed a return of the disease with affection of the kidney and ureter after resection.

HENRY KOPLIK.

LEÇONS DE CLINIQUE CHIRURGICALE. Par le DR. ANDRÉ BOURSIER
Paris. 1887.

LECTURES ON CLINICAL SURGERY.

The subjects which are treated in these lectures are most of them amongst the commonest in surgery, but the descriptions and directions for treatment are exact and distinct, though we are not inclined to agree with all the author's views.

The book opens with an excellent description of thyro-hyoid cysts. There are, as we are reminded, somewhat varied views on their path-

ology; they may be bursal glandular or congenital in origin, and good reasons are given for believing that any of these views may be correct, in other words, the author is of the opinion that such cysts vary in their pathology, a view which is borne out by the variability of their contents. The difficulties and dangers are fully considered.

After some remarks on the subject of papilloma of the palate, nasopharyngeal polypus and scirrhus of the breast we came to another lecture of more than usual interest, viz., perforations of the intestine occurring in connection with strangulated hernia. Whilst the various possible modes of dealing with such perforations are fully discussed, there is but little attempt to show which is applicable under various conditions. The varieties of adhesions are elaborately discussed but no mention is made of the mode of treating them by the removal of adherent masses of omentum. Another chapter is devoted to the discussion of retention of urine after operations, and we confess to being somewhat surprised in reference to traumatic retention, as it is called. *Vous consulteriez vainement sur le point les livres classiques de chirurgie; les plus récents sont muets sur la rétention d'urine de cause traumatique.* This may be true of French works on surgery, but it does not apply to German, English or American. All through these lectures there is a notable absence of reference to anything foreign. Very few pages are wanting in references, but there are scarcely half a dozen works in German or English referred to, which probably accounts for some of the statements which are current. The remainder of the book contains but little of interest, phimosis, fractures of the patella, and the diagnosis of talipes equinovarus have each a chapter allotted to them. The book is agreeably written, and if regarded in the light of a series of clinical lectures to students contains some excellent material

W. BRUCE CLARKE.

THE NATURE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF PAIN. By CLINTON T. DENT, F. R. C. S., Assistant Surgeon to St. George's Hospital, London; Harrison & Sons. 1887. 8vo. pp. 43.

This was delivered as an introductory address at the annual opening of the medical school, and is an exceptionally good specimen of the class of literature to which it belongs. So severe and exact is the method usually adopted by surgical writers of the modern school, that it is almost a relief to read, once in a while, a well written essay in the good old style.

The following extract deserves to be quoted both for its intrinsic mer-